



Feeling Vulnerable?

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The Climate Re:response

Climate Change Response Program
National Park Service
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Homes in Rodanthe, NC collapsed on a Cape Hatteras National Seashore beach this year.

All About Vulnerability

Climate change vulnerability assessments (VAs) typically evaluate the exposure, sensitivity, and (for living organisms) adaptive capacity of park resources. [A newly published report](#) examines over 170 VAs published prior to 2018 to identify commonalities, shortcomings, and best practices. VAs included in the review targeted National Park Service (NPS) infrastructure, natural resources, and cultural resources. Key findings include:

- There is a striking diversity of approaches for conducting VAs.
- Relatively few VAs were conducted for NPS cultural resources.
- There is a notable difference in the "state of the science" for conducting VAs among the three resource types.

The report offers several practical recommendations to improve the usefulness of future VAs for NPS managers.

[Download the full report](#)

Obtaining a Road Map

The recent *Park Science* article, [Overcoming "Analysis Paralysis" through Better Climate Change Scenario Planning](#), lays out how park managers are using scenario planning to navigate the challenges posed by climate change. Vulnerability assessments can help inform the creation of these scenarios, which in turn help park staff create a road map for the future.



[Read the article](#)

Finding Park VAs

[New widgets make it easier than ever](#) to find park-specific climate science—including vulnerability assessments—on the NPS.gov Climate Change subject site.

Not seeing your site? Additional NPS units will be added over time. Until then, try searching "climate change" and selecting your unit in the NPS Data Store (IRMA). You'll likely find more than you imagined!

[Explore the page](#)

[Bird Response to Climate Change](#)

[Park Visitation and Climate Change](#)

[Recent Climate Exposure](#)

[Eastern Forest Vulnerability](#)

Introducing a Vulnerability Assessment Protocol

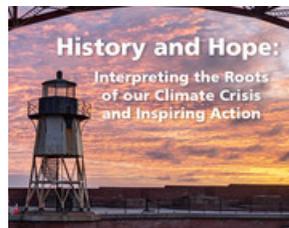
Hot off the presses! [The Coastal Hazards & Sea-Level Rise Asset Vulnerability Assessment Protocol](#) [PDF] evaluates the vulnerability of NPS buildings and transportation assets to sea-level rise, flooding, and shoreline change. This document describes the developmental history of this protocol and provides a detailed description of the methodology.



[View the PDF](#)

History and Hope Toolkit

This new toolkit—[History and Hope: Interpreting the Roots of our Climate Crisis and Inspiring Action](#)—taps into our own feelings of vulnerability to expand our interpretation of climate change. By using history intentionally, we can help visitors see climate change in a new light from its human-caused origins to its solutions. While the toolkit is currently only available to those on the DOI network, [the companion informational webinar](#) can be viewed by anyone interested in expanding the range of climate stories they tell.



[View the toolkit](#)

Upcoming Training

Just Announced: More Interpreting Climate Change Virtual Courses

Mark your calendars! The Interpreting Climate Change virtual course is back—and this time, it's two days long. Over the upcoming year, we'll host three different two-day sessions, offered at different times of day to target different time zones. Upcoming dates include December 7-8 (Eastern and Central), February 8-9 (Mountain and Pacific), and April 18-19 (Alaska and Hawaii). [Learn more about this course](#) on the NPS Common Learning Portal and [sign up here](#).



[Register now!](#)

Odds and Ends

A Note of Thanks

This is the 100th edition of the official newsletter of the NPS Climate Change Response Program. Starting in 2009, newsletters have been published at regular intervals across three administrations and in various formats. For a trip down memory lane, you can [view the very first newsletter](#), published in August 2009. Or, [view the newsletter archive](#) to browse all 100 issues and see how we've progressed. Many of you have been along for the ride with us the entire way. Thank you! Here's to the next one hundred.

[View the archive](#)

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